

REMARKS

The Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

Claims 10-12, 14, 15, 19, 21-24, 27 and 29 were rejected as allegedly anticipated by Lee.

In order for a reference “to anticipate, every element and limitation of the claimed invention must be found in a single prior art reference, arranged as in the claim.” *Karsten Mfg. Corp. v. Cleveland Golf Co.*, 242 F.3d 1376, 1383, 58 USPQ2d 1286 (Fed. Cir. 2001). The reference does not arrange the elements and the limitations of the claimed invention in a way which would teach or suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art to make a binder of the claimed invention. The reference does not disclose any individual embodiment which anticipates, or would even lead one of ordinary skill in the art to the claimed binders. Thus, the claims are not anticipated or even obvious over this reference.

The claims of the present invention recite that (A1) and (A2), i.e., two different polymers selected from the polymers for (A1) and (A2), are “both grafted” with an unsaturated carboxylic acid, i.e., the blend of two different polymers is grafted. Lee does not teach or suggest that two different polymers should be both grafted. The Office Action points to Examples 18 and 1 and to the text on column 7, line 6, while alleging anticipation of this feature of the invention. But this part of the disclosure only suggests grafting the metallocene polyethylene component b) of Lee, not the polyethylene component a) of Lee. Example 18 has a metallocene type base resin that is grafted with 3 wt% octane comonomer. Only this one polymer (resin) is grafted. The other component is a non-grafted linear low-density polyethylene. Example 1 has a metallocene type base resin that is grafted with 19.5 wt% butene comonomer. Again, only this one polymer (resin) is grafted. The other component is a non-grafted linear low-density polyethylene. The text on column 7, lines 5-6, teaches that “all or part of the metallocene polyethylene is graft modified. This text does not teach the feature of the claims wherein polymers according to each of (A1) and (A2) are grafted. Indeed, nowhere does Lee teach or suggest that two polymers should be grafted. Accordingly, the claims are not anticipated, or even obvious over Lee. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

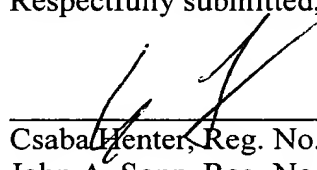
The Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 13, 16-18, 25, 26, 28 and 30 were rejected as allegedly unpatentable over Lee in view of Nagano.

Nagano does not cure the deficiencies of the primary reference, nor is an allegation made to the effect that Nagano teaches or suggests the grafting of two polymers according to each of (A1) and (A2) of the instant claims. Additionally, all the claims rejected are dependent claims, and thus, once the claims they depend from are allowed, their allowance also should follow. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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